rubbish. The roads on the east and north of the local temple were under the control of the Devaswom authorities. Those two roads together with the maintenance funds should be placed at the disposal of the Committee.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

(2) MEDICAL RELIEF.

111. Administration of medical relief.

Mr. N. R. Krishnan (Member, Nominated) dealt with the financial aspect of the administration of medical relief according to the western system of treatment and said that the people were partial to the native system of treatment, as that suited the climatic conditions and as the diseases were best cured thereby. He then submitted the following suggestions for the consideration of Government :—

(1) One Ayurveda Dispensary should be established in each taluk, the people being required to put up the necessary buildings alone, as they did for the Educational Department.

(2) The Pharmacy at Trivandrum should be reorganised and medicines should be prepared there with machine labour.

(3) The Lunatic and Leper Asylums at the capital should be placed under the control of the Director of Ayurveda. In the beginning, 10 or 12 patients from each Asylum might be made over to the Director experimentally, and if Government be satisfied with the efficacy of the treatment, all the patients might be so treated.

(4) The medical officers in the service should not receive fees for private practice.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

112. Improvements to Ayurveda.

Mr. N. Padmanabhan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) was gratified that public interest had been kindled everywhere for the promotion of the Ayurvedic system of treatment which was a time-honoured and scientific one and peculiarly favourable to the people of the State. Considering the expenditure incurred on the Hospitals, proportionate attention was not being paid by Government to the improvement of the Vaidyasalas. There was a vast difference between the pay of the officers in the Ayurveda Department and that in other Departments. Full benefits of an Ayurveda Department could not be derived if the department did not possess a staff of trained and well-paid Vaidyans. The Member then submitted the following proposals for the consideration of Government.—

1. The Ayurveda Patasala should have two sections *viz.*, an Ayurveda School and Ayurveda College.

2. An Ayurveda School should be established in each division.

3. An Ayurveda College on modern lines should be established at Trivandrum, the successful students being granted degrees and diplomas.

4. The Ayurveda Patasalas at Chengankulangara and Ettumanur should be raised to a school and given grant-in-aid.

5. All the existing grant-in-aid Vaidyasalas should be abolished. A well-trained Vaidyan should be appointed for each taluk.

6. Medicines prepared in the Government Pharmacy were now available only for the residents of Trivandrum. It was highly desirable that the medicines should be made available for sale in other parts of the State. Medicines should be prepared in large quantities with machine labour. Arrangements should be made for collecting and stocking medicinal herbs from the hills.

7. One or two Vaidyans should be sent to foreign places and trained in the systems of treatment obtaining there.

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8. An annual Conference of Ayurveda Physicians in and outside Travancore should be held every year.

9. Manuscripts of Works on Ayurveda should be collected and printed.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

113. Certain suggestions for the improvement of the Ayurveda Department with special reference to the Thiruvella taluk and the opening of dispensaries for curing snake-bites.

Mr. K. I. Kochippan Mappila (Member, Nominated) put in an earnest plea for the Ayurvedic system of medical treatment as being best suited to the climatic conditions of the country and observed that the organisation of the Ayurveda Department and the great encouragement given to it were a great boon to the people of the State. Further development of the activities and usefulness of the department was highly desirable. He, therefore, submitted the following suggestions for the improvement of the department:—

(i) The pay of the staff of the Ayurveda Patasala should be revised and the staff placed on an equal footing with members of other departments.

(ii) The building in which the Patasala was conducted was most unsuitable for the purpose; a better building with sufficient accommodation and proper ventilation should be constructed at an early date.

(iii) The Patasala should be raised to a College on modern lines.

(iv) There was only one Vaidyan on Rs. 25 per mensem who was in charge of the Pharmacy. He had to look after the collection and stocking of medicinal herbs and substances, the preparation of medicines and their distribution and sale. That was more than what one Vaidyan could possibly do. Yet, his pay was fixed at such a low figure as Rs. 25. More Vaidyans and a subordinate staff should be appointed on decent pay.

(v) Machine labour should be utilised in the preparation of the necessary drugs, oils, *Thailams*, &c.

(vi) Medicines prepared in the Pharmacy should be made available for sale in all the Vaidyasalas of the State.

(vii) The building taken up on rent for holding the Ayurveda Hospital at Trivandrum was ill-suited for the purpose. There should be separate buildings for the in-patient and out-patient departments.

(viii) The pay of the Vaidyans in the Ayurveda Hospital should be substantially raised.

(ix) A Vaidyasala should be opened in each taluk. The site and building should be provided by the people. The appointment of trained and skilled Vaidyans should be made by Government.

(x) Medicines should be sold to the patients at a moderate cost.

(xi) The pay of the Director of Ayurveda, which was less than that of a Deputy Surgeon in the Medical Department, should be raised.

The Member then referred to the numerous cases of deaths from snake-bite in the Thiruvella taluk during the last 2 years. In 1094 there were 949 cases of snake-bite against 861 cases in 1093. Up to Kumbhom 1095 there were 438 cases. For the treatment of such cases, there was only one Visha Vaidyasala at Aranmula. For want of easy means of communication and good cartable roads, Aranmula was not readily accessible, especially during the monsoon when the rivers would be full an impassable. Any delay in the treatment of cases of snake-bite meant loss of life and it was highly necessary that there should be a number of Visha Vaidyasalas in

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